

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 13, 2000 LB 171, 213, 414, 628, 833, 929, 1092, 1217
1253, 1352, 1401A

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Would you like to open on the committee amendment, or did you handle it?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yeah, I ran it all together.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: That's fine, that's fine. Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Mr. Clerk, items for the record?

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Your Committee on Enrollment and Review reports LB 414, to Select File; LB 213, LB 628, LB 833, LB 929, LB 1352, LB 1253, LB 171, LB 1401A (and LB 1092 to Select File). And, Mr. President, I have a hearing notice from Education Committee. That's all that I have, thank you. (Legislative Journal pages 1037-1043.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. For debate on the committee amendments to LB 1217, Senator Brashear, followed by Senator Dwite Pedersen, Schmitt, Suttle, Hilgert and Kristensen. Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I have heard a number of explanations, Senator Matzke, Senator Brown, Senator Wehrbein, of course as Chair for the larger expenditures set forth on page 11 of the Appropriations Committee's report. I would like to explore the fourth expenditure, that by the appropriation to the University of Nebraska, which I understand to be \$6 million. Senator Wehrbein, my attention has been drawn to the university, and I have tried to refresh myself in terms of its enormity. And I want to amplify that I understand that there is \$387 million of General Fund money in the budget for the University of Nebraska. I'll lay out some of these facts, and then when Senator Wehrbein returns to the floor I'll ask him some questions. But I find \$387 million of General Fund money for the university. I see total annual revenues of \$1,070,000,000, and I see that we are dealing with what appears to me to be, and I can certainly be corrected, an appropriation of...an additional appropriation of less than three-tenths of 1 percent of the annual revenues of what I have calculated to be the tenth largest enterprise in the state of Nebraska. With its \$1,070,000,000 total revenues and its 11,000 employees it is only outranked by ConAgra, Berkshire